

Wisconsin River Rail Transit Commission

Full Commission Mtg – Friday, 5 June 2009 @ 10am • Dane Co. Hwy, 2302 Fish Hatchery Rd, Madison, WI

1. Karl Nilson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Commissioners present for all or part of the meeting:

Crawford	Tom	Cornford	x	Rock	Ben	Coopman (alternate)	
	Kersten	Rocksvold	x		Katie	Kuznacic	
	Vacant				Alan	Sweeney	
Dane	Gene	Gray	x		Terry	Thomas	
	Jim	Haefs-Flemming	x	Sauk	Joel	Gaalswijk	
	Forrest	Van Schwartz	x		Rob	Sinklair (alternate)	x
Grant	DuWayne	Carlin			Halsey	Sprecher	
	Margaret	Ruf			Larry	Volz	x
	Robert	Scallon	x	Walworth	Jerry	Grant	
Iowa	Charles	Anderson	x		Richard	Kuhnke	
	Gerald	Dorscheid	x		Allan	Polyock	
	Joe	Thomas		Waukesha	Karl	Nilson	x
					Richard	Manke	
					Fritz	Ruf	

Others present for all or part of the meeting:

Amy Seebth (SWWRPC / WRRTC Administrator); Frank Huntington; Ben Meighan (WSOR); Jim Matzinger (Dane County Hwy CPA / WRRTC Accountant); Dick Goddard (Pink Lady RTC).

3. Motion accepting Seebth's certification of Public Notice / Anderson / Cornford / passed unanimously.

4. Motion accepting the Agenda, prepared by Seebth. Dorscheid / Van Schwartz / passed unanimously.

5. Motion approving the draft May Minutes with following correction: "forall" in item 13 should read "formal"- Gray / Dorscheid / passed unanimously.

6. Public Comment – NA

7. **Correspondence & Communications** –Seebth reported on a phone call she received from Rep. Hilgenberg to learn about what residents in SW Wisconsin feel about Rail issues in the state budget including the line re-activation in Green-Lafayette County and a bridge in Sauk City. No one at the meeting knew much about the bridge. A request was made to research this question and include the topic on the next agenda.

REPORTS & COMMISSION BUSINESS

8. **Monthly Maintenance Activities** – Ben Meighan, WSOR Superintendent of Maintenance reported that traffic along the rails is still down, with occasional surges. A new business is starting and a few customers who have been idle for the past few months have begun to ship and receive a bit more. All defects that are left to be fixed are small joint defects. Meighan distributed a summary of defects to those in attendance. 321 defects total have been found, 121 repairs left.

9. **Consideration / Action on 2010 Capital Projects** – Ken Lucht, WSOR – Forward – This item is being tabled until the State budget is passed.

10. **WRRTC Financial Report** – Jim Matzinger, Dane County CPA / WRRTC Accountant, distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report and provided an overview.

- Motion approving Treasurer's Report and payment of bills as presented / Van Schwartz / Gray / passed unanimously.

11. **WRRTC Administrator's Report** – Amy Seebth, SWWRPC Trans. Planner had no new updates. She circulated copies of the April usage report for the Commission's website www.wrrtc.org and also a handout of all WRRTC Commissioners name and contact information.

- 12. WisDOT Update** – Frank Huntington (WISDOT) reported that WisDOT completed acquisition of the line from Plymouth to Kohler, and is still working on acquiring a couple of other line segments – in price negotiations. Huntington also updated the Commission on the rail re-regulation bill. It is likely not going to become an issue again until after the next election. It is dead for now, but may come up again.
- 13. Update on permits for** demolition of structures on WRRTC property in Arena, WI – Dorscheid reported that he received a signed note that Stephen Foye has no interest or property in the railroad sheds at Sharon and oak street in Arena. Dorscheid also has verbal agreement from the Village that they intend to help pay for the flagging, but will get formal agreement at the next Village meeting. Seebboth had the necessary public notice about the bid placed in the local (Spring Green) newspaper, per the advising of Eileen Brownlee, WRRTC Legal Council.
- 14. WRRTC Insurance with Richgels-Schaefer Agency Inc.** – Seebboth
- **Motion to approve Treasure’s Bond Insurance for \$556.75 (same as last year) – Cornford / Gray / passed unanimously.**
 - **Motion to authorize Seebboth, Matzinger, and Brownlee to see that Supplemental Insurance for up to 100 million with a \$15,553 premium is what the WRRTC needs, and if so, to approve that insurance – Van Schwartz / Anderson / passed unanimously.**
- 15. City of Brodhead Crossing Request-** Huntington from WisDOT reported on how WisDOT is working on giving out a permit for Broadhead to work on the right-of-way.
- 16. Motion adjourning the meeting at 11:11 a.m. - Cornford / Scallon / passed unanimously.**